BRIEF NOTICES OF

"THE HISTORY AND LEGISLATION OF SEPARATE SCHOOLS IN UPPER CANADA"

BY

J. GEORGE HODGINS, M.A., LL.D.

of Osgoode Hall, Barrister-at-Law.

Publisher's Notice.

Dr. Hodgins—who was chief of the Staff in the Education Department from the time of the Rev. Dr. Ryerson's appointment, as head of the Department, in 1844, until his retirement, in 1876, and until the end of 1889—has in the press of our Publishing House a work on the "Legislation and History of Separate Schools in Upper Canada," from their inception, in 1841, to the passage of the "Finality Act" of 1860-1863. On this latter measure were based the provisions of the British North America Act relating to Separate Schools. In this connection will be given the text of the legal opinion of three noted Queen's Counsel on these provisions, which was published in March, 1867. The work will extend to between 200 and 250 pages of printed matter. It will contain a sketch, or narrative, of the principal proceedings, incidents, and more important correspondence and conferences which took place on the subject of Separate Schools from 1841 to 1863, and such later proceedings in regard to these schools, down to 1876, as may be of interest. The text, or a summary thereof, of the various Separate School Bills, amendments, etc., prepared by promoters of Separate Schools, members of the Legislature, or others, during those years, will be given; also, the principal division lists, with the names of the members voting, etc. In this work will be given the particulars of the immediate causes which led to the introduction of the principle of Separate Schools into the Legislation of 1841—the early opinions of representatives of the Roman Catholic Church and others upon the school system of Upper Canada—tributes to Bishops Power and Charbonnel—extracts from correspondence on the subject—Bishop Macdonell's friendly relations with the Home Government—grant to him for churches and schools—the Rev. Father Stafford on Bishop Macdonell's educational efforts, and other matters; also, opinions on the Separate School Question by public men—Sir John Macdonald, Rev. Dr. Ryerson, and Senator Penny (giving a Lower Canada view of the question), William Lyon Mackenzie, J. Sandfield Macdonald, John Elmsley, George Brown, John G. Bowes, J. W. Gamble, and several other public men; and Dr. Ryerson's confidential report to the Governor-General on Separate Schools in 1858—personal and parliamentary incidents of the struggle on the Separate School Question in 1850, 1855, and 1863—attitude of the members of the Legislature on both sides, and methods employed in moulding the Separate School legislation of these years, etc. The number and variety of these personal references to prominent individuals will give an especial interest to this work. Altogether, this book will prove to be a most valuable *vade mecum* of wholly authentic and reliable information on the interesting subject of which it treats. The name of the author is a sufficient guarantee for both the fulness and correctness, as well as accuracy, of the information given.

From the Toronto "Christian Guardian." (Rev. Dr. Blackstock.)

"The materials furnished by this book are so ample, the points of interest are so numerous, and the authorities quoted are so important, that it is quite impossible to do anything like justice to them in a newspaper article. . . . A fact that candor compels us to admit, and that Dr. Hodgins has placed beyond question, is, that the Protestants of fifty or sixty years ago were as much responsible (in 1841) for the establishment of Separate Schools as the Roman Catholics were. . . . The subject is profoundly interesting, and it is treated in an admirable manner. It is the accuracy and the greatness of the author's information which is evident in every chapter."

From the "Toronto Globe."

"Those who have examined the several volumes of 'Documentary History of Education in Upper Canada' already published by Dr. Hodgins will be quite prepared to find this an interesting volume. Entering the Department with Dr. Ryerson, in 1844, and sustaining to the Chief Superintendent the relation not only of Deputy, but also of intimate friend and confidant, Dr. Hodgins is able to give us an inner history, of which, in its completeness, no other living man is cognizant. The work itself, for which he is thus so perfectly qualified, he evidently performs as a loving duty to the dead, vindicating by the clear light of inner facts the consistent and patriotic aims of the great Canadian in this, the most difficult part of his life work. He has written that posterity might fully understand the inner motives as well as the public acts of his life-long friend and fellow-worker, the man to whom he was united by ties of rare affection."

From the Toronto "Mail and Empire."

"This work is of great interest to all concerned in educational matters, and to those who desire to trace the intricacies of the Separate School question. . . Dr. Hodgins, in giving the History of Separate Schools, adopts no controversial tone, but presents the facts as they were developed, fairly and frankly assigning to each individual concerned . . . in the settlement of the question, the place to which he belongs. . . . There is a very general desire to know the history of Separate Schools in Ontario, and Dr. Hodgins' admirably written book meets the popular requirements in that regard."

From the Ottawa "Citizen."

"Dr. Hodgins was for a long time Deputy Minister of Education, and was a personal friend and colleague of Dr. Ryerson for over thirty years, during the progress of Separate School legislation. As might be expected from the personal knowledge of the subject enjoyed by the author, the narrative is very interesting."

From the Montreal "Gazette."

". . . Evidently Dr. Ryerson had no easy task, but Dr. Hodgins, who knew him better than any one now living, . . . maintains that he discharged his duty with fairness to all. That he had sharp controversies with . . . clergy and laymen, with lawyers, men of business, with school boards, professors and editors, was unavoidable in his position. He was a man of great courage, and never declined a challenge. . . . Dr. Hodgins' record of Separate School legislation and controversy—of which he was a witness, and in which he had a considerable share—must be found of value to the student of our educational history."

From the "Evangelical Churchman."

This volume by Dr. Hodgins is most readable, and throws a strong and continuous light on this much vexed question. The author had exceptional advantages in the preparation of this work. He had been for forty years the intimate friend, and for thirty-two years the chief assistant, of the Founder of our System of Education. . . . He writes from an extended educational experience [of 55 years, in 1899], and with the fullest historical data at his command. . . . The details are brightened by a vast amount of private and confidential correspondence which reveals the inner history of the movement with a clearness and reliability which greatly adds to the interest of the reader."

From the "Catholic Register," Toronto.

"We are obliged to say that we cannot find in this volume any thought that is either original or great."

THE BOOK, IN PAPER COVERS, SELLS AT $1.00; IN CLOTH BOARDS, $1.25, POSTPAID. ADDRESS ALL ORDERS—

WILLIAM BRIGGS,

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